Declaration and Power of Attorney for Attorney Docket No. 09278W-US Page 1 of 2

## APPLICATION FOR UNITED STATES PATENT

Declaration and Power of Attorney

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on

## VEHICLE AXLE SYSTEM, TORQUE TUBE, VEHICLE AXLE, & VEHICLE

SERIAL NO.: 10/574,128

the specification (including at least one claim) and drawing(s) (if any) of which are attached hereto

I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified application, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability of this application in accordance with §1.56 of Title 37 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

I do not know and do not believe that this invention (i) was ever known or used in the United States before my invention thereof, or (ii) was patented or described in any printed publication in any country before my invention thereof, or (iii) was patented or described in any printed publication more than one year prior to the present application, or (iv) was in public use or on sale in the United States more than one year prior to the present application, or (v) has been patented or made the subject of an inventor's cartificate issued before the date of the present application in any foreign country on an application filed by me or my legal representatives or assigns more than twelve months prior to the present application.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under §119 and/or §385 of Title 35 of the United States Code of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate indicated below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate on this invention having a filing date before that of the application(s) on which priority is claimed:

Country/ Application Priority Claimed International Number Date (Yes or No) Germany 10 351308.6 31 October 2003 Yes

I hereby appoint the practitioners associated with the following customer number to prosecute the present application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith and to file, prosecute and to transact all business in connection with all foreign and international applications directed to the invention

> 30689 Decre & Company Patent Department One John Deere Place Moline, IL 61265-8098

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Date signed application 2007/01/05

Dr. Jeachim Sobotchik

Witness

Date J. 2 247

Witness

Date 5.2.04

Date signed application declaration 1. 700

Date or Feb. 2002

Witness

Date Of. 02.07

Date Of. 02.07

Date of Feb. 2002

Date of Feb. 2002

Date of Feb. 2002

Date of Feb. 2002

Date of Feb. 2003

Date of Feb. 2003

Date of Feb. 2003

Date of Feb. 2004

Date of Of. 02.07